

Southern Oregon Miner

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BOTTLE THROWER THROWN IN JUG!

The sentencing of a Medford taxi driver to two years in the state penitentiary for throwing a whisky bottle into a crowd of fans at a Medford wrestling match has drawn surprised comment from many southern Oregonians.

At first blush, the sentence seems to many to be unusually severe, inasmuch as the offender had no previous police record and acted during the excitement of watching an athletic contest. But probably one of the most persuading considerations to the court was the injury caused by the act, which of course properly determines gravity of the situation.

It appears that a woman—innocent victim of the thoughtless act—may never fully recover from head injuries suffered. Two other persons also were hurt by the glass missile as it hurtled into ringside crowds.

Had the offender injured three innocent victims by motor car, or by some other more common mishap due to his own foolishness, the sentence would have been expected. But because it is uncommon to throw whisky bottles at wrestlers—and because a lot of us have had an urge to throw something at 'em—such a sentence comes as a rude awakening to the fact that "innocent fun" isn't always what we intended it to be.

Perhaps outcome of this unfortunate event will tend to keep other potential excitable from injuring more bystanders. That is the primary purpose of law enforcement, anyway. Interests of the behaving public are of far greater importance than the desired freedom of missile-throwing rowdies.

★ ★ ★

EVERYBODY PAYS DUES!

Probably the partly-informed are the worst informed of all. Particularly in this matter of passing swift mental judgment on various union labor disturbances of recent months.

One of the most common complaints being made by persons having little or no actual experience with labor organizations is that they'd never "pay some-body dues every month just to get to work."

Well, that sounds like a pretty sound argument, and it would be if it fitted the situation. But right there is where a lot of misunderstanding arises among people who hear only fragmentary reports of exactly what unions are like and how they're administered.

The same man who will declare he wouldn't pay a red cent to anybody for a job will pungle up a number of dollars a year to maintain his favorite church organization; will pay monthly dues to his lodge, and expects to be levied city, county, state and federal taxes because he knows that any organization, no matter of what nature or scope, must maintain a certain amount of administrative overhead.

The same thing is true of working men's organizations. To be effective they, too, must have a pattern and a nuclear organization which necessitates expense. It is for that purpose that dues are levied. Just as a religious body must have regular contributions to safeguard its meeting place and further members' interests, so must a labor union provide for its own functions.

Practically all labor unions, however, not only maintain an organization for furtherance of workers' interests, but also operate fraternal benefits that provide for hospitalization and death benefits. Some unions even pioneered the way toward homes for their sick, disabled and aged members, and first introduced old age pensions! Not such a bad record, considering that they were years ahead of governmental policy and liberalities of big business.

All these worthwhile things—to say nothing of the benefits of shorter hours, better working conditions and increased rights to all working classes—have been accomplished through organization and have been financed through collection of dues from members.

So, it is seen by a little investigation, labor or-

LIFE'S BYWAYS!



ganizations are not primarily structures by which certain leaders may levy tithes on "sucker members," but are well organized, self-governed, businesslike fraternities of intelligent men honestly making an effort to help their country by helping and caring for themselves.

Of course, there may be a few exceptions to this general rule among the newer labor unions which lack seasoning and experience, but all organizations which have survived in the past, and which will prosper in the future, will be founded on as sound principles as any other concern which survives competition in the business world.

So the next time you hear some person expounding a belief—founded on lack of information or thinking ability—that unions are devised for money-gathering purposes by ruthless racketeers you will know that that person is talking through his hat.

LETTERS to the Editor

To the Editor:

If the readers of my former articles in your splendid paper will notice their contents they will discover that, by the use of history in things governmental and constitutional how that, step by step, through constitutional provisions the divine right of kings, priests and owners of chattel slaves lost their titles whereby they could and did rule and oppress others.

In all this there is a tip that through other means oppression may be thrown off by similar methods. Getting rid of child labor by constitutional provisions was hinted at, also other methods or like conditions should follow.

Carl Stuart, in his book, "Mexico Defines Civilization As City Living, Plus." The plus might be righteousness or unrighteousness. Thus we see that the difference would spell for safety or unsafety, peace or war, comfort or discomfort. Through city charters that provided for equitable distribution

of things produced going to all the people within the city and suburbs thereof would bring equity, justice and righteousness.

Civilization as a whole is made up of cities. Two or more cities may, by adopting a constitution, create states or nations. All, or many, uniting in a common charter, or constitution. Said constitution, or manuscript, would when ratified or adopted create—if it were drawn properly—an international union of states having a representative commission form and non-militant indus-trio-cooperative characteristic. The act of ratification or adoption would create a social order that the angels rejoiced in song 2,000 years ago on the hills of Bethlehem of Judea.

"Visionary," the pessimist will shout.

In the latter half of the 17th century Bacon and his struggling land owners, in their battle with cruel but patriotic Lord Governor Berkeley in the Virginias, had a vision of an American republic that was born in the latter half of the 18th century. And lo, the western hemisphere has no kings! The vision became a reality. Political freedom was the result.

The Dartmouth college case has

The Morning After The Night Before

By J. C. REYNOLDS
Sourdough Sage of Applegate

Last night I attended Church service till ended, Intensely absorbed, till its close. And afterward slowly, With sentiments holy, Turned homeward to seek my repose.

My prayers first repeating, Beneath the cool sheeting Of my soft, felted couch I did creep; And feeling contented Since having repented, Prepared for a comforting sleep.

Just then a planter— The Star Spangled Banner— In a neighboring cottage began. And I murmured, "Hosannah! Lord bless that planter And the tune that gets next to a man."

But quickly, dor gorn it, Some guy with a cornet— Or perhaps 'twas a clarionette— Turned loose a wild medley Of sounds rank and deadly With a vim I will never forget.

Then some heartless jigger Pried open the trigger Of a squeaky old singing machine; While cats in our alley Pulled off a grand rally With screeches most shrill and obscene.

Religion forgotten, I lay there a-plottin' While cuss-words oozed out with each breath.

And ideas of murder Grew swiftly absurder As I tortured my victims to death.

Regarding good manners— There is good in bananas, Limburger, sauer kraut and ice

aided greatly in bringing on enormous private incorporation provocative to industrial slavery. Such a regime (Resuma) necessitates a movement as will through constitutional provisions give us industrial freedom and equity and put society's feet on solid ground. It need not take a century to do it. Industrial cooperation spells collectively getting a living by helping the other fellow to live. It is the antithesis of mass murder that we call war. How a people in this, our time, can look for permanent peace and have a social order lacking indus-trio-cooperation is beyond me.

More hereafter, maybe not.

D. M. BROWER, M. D.

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KNOT HOLE NEWS

By KEN WEIL

HOWDY, FOLKS:

One of the boys was telling about the preacher who kissed the bride, after performing the ceremony, and gave the groom back his money. You figure that one out—we couldn't.

But the thing that really worries us is whether the zebra is a white animal with black stripes or visa versa.

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